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The 5-minute interview

Dr Martin Lear, 46, is a senior lecturer at Lincoln University's School of Chemistry...



Aiming to help put the city's university in the international spotlight

What's the best part of your job? Freedom of thought and work activity; being able to design and deliver in both a teaching and research context and seeing the fruitions down the road with the people we have trained and by sharing in their successes.

Where do you see the university of Lincoln in 10 years' time? To be able to compete with the Russell Group and be well sought after with respect to students wishing to learn here and researchers wishing to join here. The biggest change will be in research and enterprise with national recognition and some key international notoriety.

What's the biggest obstacle to the university's continued success? To break away from a pure teaching mentality and integrate infrastructures and financial schemes to drive research ambitions in a cohesive fashion that will have impact on 2026 and beyond. Having a clear vision and ethos in this respect will continue success from both bottom-up and top-down research drives.

What do you like most about working in Lincoln? Friendliness, sincerity and collegial-

ity would be my top three words that come to mind both inside and outside the workplace. Great food and currently a favourable cost of living are also positives (with a great balance between shopping, eating, and the countryside).

Would you change anything about the city? Not really. Nothing really needs chan-

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ging, just to be looked after in a respectful manner. Personally, I am looking forward to the bypass, which has been long in the waiting.

Could you live like a student?

Yes, and I have done so recently when I joined the university and when I have lived abroad in Japan. Living humbly is quite often a prerequisite to being an academic with a passion to keep learning and discovering new findings in spite of the surroundings.

